

## Message Text

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ORIGIN OES-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SS-15 DOE-15 ACDA-12 NSCE-00  
INRE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 IO-13 L-03 NSAE-00 EB-08  
NRC-05 SOE-02 DODE-00 SP-02 CEQ-01 OIC-02 /108 R

DRAFTED BY OES:E STEINBERG  
APPROVED BY S/AS:P J FARLEY  
DOE: J SCHWENNESEN  
DOE:D BODDE  
OES: J BORIGHT  
DOE:W KORNACK  
ACDA:R ROCHLIN

-----032417 061522Z /46

O 061501Z JUL 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TECH, ENRG, MNUC, PARM

SUBJECT: INFCE WORKING GROUPS 1A AND 2A MEETINGS IN  
LONDON JULY 10: NUCLEAR ENERGY PROJECTIONS

1. DEPARTMENT REQUESTS SCIENCE COUNSELOR OR OTHER APPROPRIATE EMBASSY OFFICIAL TO TRANSMIT FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO ROBERT ALSTON OF FOREIGN OFFICE, WHO SHOULD BE ASKED TO PASS IT TO P.M.S. JONES OF ATOMIC ENERGY AUTHORITY ALSO. THIS MESSAGE IS A REPLY TO CABLE DELIVERED BY UK EMBASSY WASHINGTON TO FARLEY FROM ALSTON, DATED JULY 3.

2. MESSAGE FOLLOWS:

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A. THE U.S. AGREES THAT THE WEC FORECASTS CONSTITUTE THE AN INITIAL POINT OF DEPARTURE FOR DEVELOPMENT OF THE POST-2000 INFCE PROJECTIONS. WE ARE PLEASED TO NOTE THAT THE UK ALSO WISHES TO DEVELOP A RANGE OF FORECASTS WHICH STRIKES A BALANCE BETWEEN THE EXTREMELY HIGH AND THE EXTREMELY LOW.

B. TO ARRIVE AT SUCH A RANGE WE BELIEVE IT MOST USEFUL TO BEGIN WITH AN IDENTIFICATION AND ANALYSIS OF THE INPUTS TO THE WEC SCENARIOS. THEN THE WORKING PARTY COULD SELECT

THOSE SETS OF ASSUMPTIONS WHICH SEEM MOST LIKELY TO ENCOMPASS THE FUTURE STATE OF THE WORLD. THE OUTPUTS OF THESE CASES WOULD YIELD AN INTELLECTUALLY HONEST RANGE OF NUCLEAR CAPACITY PROJECTIONS BASED ON THE WEC DATA AND METHODOLOGY TO THE EXTENT THEY ARE APPROPRIATE. TO THE EXTENT THAT SUCH AN APPROACH IS NOT TOTALLY FEASIBLE, THE PARTICIPANTS AT THE JULY 10 MEETING MIGHT HAVE TO CONSIDER ALTERNATIVE APPROACHES.

3. FOR EMBASSY'S INFORMATION, INCOMING MESSAGE FROM UK WAS AS FOLLOWS:

A. WE AGREE ON THE NEED TO AVOID ARGUMENT AT THE WORKING GROUP MEETING AND SAW VALUE IN TRYING TO AGREE A RANGE OF FUTURE ENERGY DEMAND TOGETHER. WE THEREFORE WELCOMED THE PROPOSED US/UK BILATERAL DISCUSSION BEFORE 10 JULY. IN THE EVENT MR. BODDE (US DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY) HAD TO CANCEL HIS VISIT AND OUR EXPERTS HAVE ONLY BEEN ABLE TO SPEAK BRIEFLY ON THE TELEPHONE.

B. WE HAVE NOW CIRCULATED A FURTHER TECHNICAL PAPER. THIS ADOPTS A NEUTRAL LINE AND SUGGESTS THAT INFCE SHOULD LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ADOPT SOMETHING LIKE THE WEC FORECAST RANGE WHICH FOLLOWS A MIDDLE COURSE THROUGH THE SCENARIOS OF THE HIGH ENERGY SOCIETY PROPONENTS AND THE ZERO GROWTH LOBBY. IT IS UNLIKELY THAT INFCE COULD PRODUCE ANYTHING THAT SETS OUT A SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENT ON THE WEC WORK. WE HOPE THAT US REPRESENTATIVES ON 10 JULY WILL FEEL ABLE TO ACCEPT A MODERATE RANGE OF THIS KIND. IT SEEMS PROBABLE THAT ANY ATTEMPT TO DEVELOP SCIENTIFIC SCENARIOS ARGUING IN FAVOUR OF HIGHER DEMAND WILL BE COUNTERED BY ARGUMENTS FOR LOWER, AND VICE VERSA. ADOPTION OF AN EXISTING RANGE ON WEC LINES STRIKES A BALANCE BETWEEN THE REQUIREMENT TO REFLECT A RANGE OF POSSIBLE OUTCOMES ON THE ONE HAND, AND A COMPLICATED AND TIME-CONSUMING DISCUSSION ON THE OTHER WHICH MIGHT WELL LEAD, AS THE ONLY BASIS ON WHICH AGREEMENT WAS POSSIBLE, TO A RANGE OF POSSIBILITIES SO WIDE AS TO PROVIDE LITTLE REAL GUIDANCE TO THE OTHER WORKING GROUPS.

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## Message Attributes

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**Draft Date:** 06 jul 1978  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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